

## **Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

Testing requirements for contacts and exposed persons

4 February 2022

Version 3.0

**OFFICIAL** 



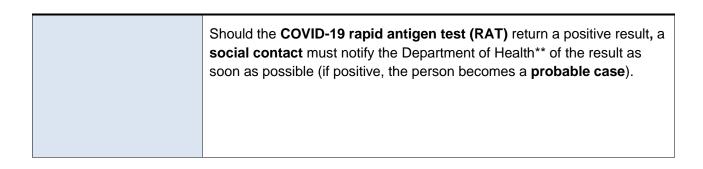
## Background

This document describes the 'Testing Requirements for Contacts and Exposed Persons' regarding the types of COVID-19 tests for cohorts covered by the *Pandemic (Quarantine Isolation and Testing) Order*.

This document may be amended from time to time by the Secretary of the Department of Health.

## **Testing Requirements**

Classification	Mandatory Testing Requirements
Close contact	A close contact with COVID-19 symptoms must undertake a COVID-19 rapid antigen test (RAT) upon symptom onset. Should the COVID-19 rapid antigen test (RAT) return a positive result, a close contact must notify the Department of Health** of the result as soon as possible (if positive, the person becomes a probable case). If the result is negative, the close contact must undertake a COVID-19 rapid antigen test (RAT) on the sixth day of the self-quarantine period.  A close contact without COVID-19 symptoms must undertake a
	COVID-19 rapid antigen test (RAT) on the first and sixth day from when they are required to self-quarantine. Should the COVID-19 rapid antigen test (RAT) return a positive result, a close contact must notify the Department of Health** of the result as soon as possible (if positive, the person becomes a probable case).
	If the close contact is unable to access a COVID-19 rapid antigen test (RAT), they must undertake a COVID-19 PCR test instead.
	It is recommended that a <b>close contact</b> undertake a <b>COVID-19 rapid antigen test (RAT)</b> on three other days between the first and sixth day of self-quarantine.
	Note: this should be in accordance with the <b>COVID-19 rapid antigen test</b> procedure.
Exposed person (workplace contact)	An exposed person must undertake a COVID-19 rapid antigen test (RAT) or a COVID-19 PCR test if experiencing COVID-19 symptoms and self-quarantine until they receive a negative result, or for seven days post-test, whichever is earlier.
	Should the <b>COVID-19 rapid antigen test (RAT)</b> return a positive result, an <b>exposed person</b> must notify the Department of Health** of the result as soon as possible (if positive, the person becomes a <b>probable case</b> ).
Social contact	A social contact must undertake a COVID-19 rapid antigen test (RAT) or a COVID-19 PCR test if experiencing COVID-19 symptoms and self-quarantine until they are notified of a negative result, or for seven days post-test, whichever is earlier.



Classification	Recommended Testing
Exposed person (workplace contact)	An exposed person without COVID-19 symptoms is strongly recommended to undertake daily COVID-19 rapid antigen test (RAT) for five days following notification that they are an exposed person.  Should the COVID-19 rapid antigen test (RAT) return a positive result, an exposed person must notify the Department of Health** of the result as soon as possible (if positive, the person becomes a probable case).
	Note: this is in accordance with the COVID-19 rapid antigen test procedure.
Social contact	A <b>social contact</b> without <b>COVID-19 symptoms</b> is strongly recommended to undertake daily <b>COVID-19 rapid antigen test (RAT)</b> for five days following notification that they are a <b>social contact</b> .
	Should the COVID-19 rapid antigen test (RAT) return a positive result, a social contact must notify the Department of Health** of the result as soon as possible (if positive, the person becomes a probable case).
	Note: this is in accordance with the <b>COVID-19 rapid antigen test</b> procedure.
Symptomatic person in the community or a workplace (not a close contact, exposed person or social contact)	A symptomatic person in the community or a workplace (who is not a close contact, exposed person or social contact) who is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms should undertake a COVID-19 rapid antigen test (RAT) or a COVID-19 PCR test as soon as possible after symptom onset, and self-quarantine until they receive a negative result or for seven days post-test, whichever is earlier.
	Should the <b>COVID-19 rapid antigen test (RAT)</b> return a positive result, they must notify the Department of Health** of the result as soon as possible (if positive, the person becomes a <b>probable case</b> ).
Asymptomatic person in the community (not a close contact, exposed person or social contact)	Should a <b>COVID-19 rapid antigen test (RAT)</b> return a positive result, an asymptomatic person in the community must notify the Department of Health** of the result as soon as possible (if positive, the person becomes a <b>probable case</b> ).
,	It is recommended for an asymptomatic person in the community to confirm a positive COVID-19 rapid antigen test (RAT) with a COVID-19 PCR test.

\*Definitions (in bold) can be found in the *Pandemic (Quarantine, Isolation and Testing) Order*.

The **COVID-19 rapid antigen test procedure** means if a person completed a COVID-19 rapid antigen test:

- the person must undertake a second COVID-19 rapid antigen test as soon as possible if
  the person receives an invalid test result from the first COVID-19 rapid antigen test, such
  that it is not possible to conclude that the result is a negative test result; and
- if the result of the second COVID-19 rapid antigen test is invalid such that it is not possible
  to conclude that the result is negative, the person must complete a COVID-19 PCR test
  within 24 hours and remain in self-quarantine until the person receives a negative test
  result.

<sup>\*\*</sup>The Department of Health can be notified via the COVID-19 Positive Rapid Antigen Test Self-Reporting Form online at <a href="https://dhvicgovau.powerappsportals.com/rapid-antigen-test">https://dhvicgovau.powerappsportals.com/rapid-antigen-test</a> or call centre on 1800 675 398.